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SUBJECT: NIGERIA: DEMARCHE DELIVERED ON JUNE 19 ROUNDTABLE
ON ZIMBABWE AT THE UN

REF: SECSTATE 65274

Classified By: Political Counselor Walter Pflaumer for reasons 1.4. (b
& d).

11. (C) On June 18, 2008, Post delivered reftel demarche to Charles A. Ononye, Director of the First United Nations Division of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Ononye assured Poloffs that he would contact Nigeria's United Nations representative and ask him to attend the Roundtable. Ononye also affirmed that both President Yar'Adua and Foreign Minister Ojo Maduekwe had spoken out recently in favor of democratic elections in Zimbabwe.

12. (C) Ononye speculated that, should President Mugabe again appear to have lost the election, he still might refuse to relinquish power (as he was already hinting). In such an event, the international community would need to take firmer measures to try and ensure a desirable outcome, Ononye said. Post will report any further developments here on the issue.
SANDERS